GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1056
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2002
TRANSPORTATION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS
SUBODH ROY;TARACHAND BHAGORA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Vayu Sena Ke Liye Bisfotak Le Ja Raha Truck Do Ghante Ke Liya Kafile Se Bichhuda` appearing in `Jansatta` dated January 18, 2002;

(b) whether the Air Force violated the set procedure for transportation of arms and ammunition and other materials; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to check recurrence of such lapses?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been reported that the last truck got separated from the main convoy due to mechanical problem and subsequently took a different route. The matter was reported to civil police who escorted the truck to Bhuj. The stores carried by the truck was intact and there was no loss or damage. The truck had an armed escort and no procedure was violated by the Air Force.

(c) In order to avoid recurrence of such incidents, enhanced security measures including additional armed escorts, route escort and communication facilities have been introduced.